

The Gospel According to John

6-3-2020

1. Last week I taught in part 1Jo 3:4-10. When the clock tolled 7:45 P.M. we were reviewing what John had written in the second chapter of the book of First John. The verses in 1st John chapter two were studied as an introduction to the analysis of 1Jo 3:4-10.
2. I want to review some of that learned. Given the fact we were “assaulted” last week by several significant thunderstorms; tonight’s review will be longer than usual. We will begin new material on page five.
3. There are those who contend that 1Jo 3:4-10 teach believers do not sin. Keep in mind both believer and unbeliever sin in time, but the believer does not commit sin in what we call the top circle.
4. Last week we took special note that 1Jo 3:4-10 was written by the same man who wrote 1Jo 1:8-10

KJV

1Jo 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jo 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1Jo 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

5. I would warn each of you not think of 1Jo 3:4-10 as a separate book. The eclectic approach to understanding Scripture leads to misinterpretation.

5.1 First John verses four through ten is a small portion of John’s last epistle and must be interpreted as part of the entire book, the theme of which is: “You are family of God and as family you are loved. Our Father loves to instruct His little children.”

6. We began last week by answering the question: Why did John write the book?

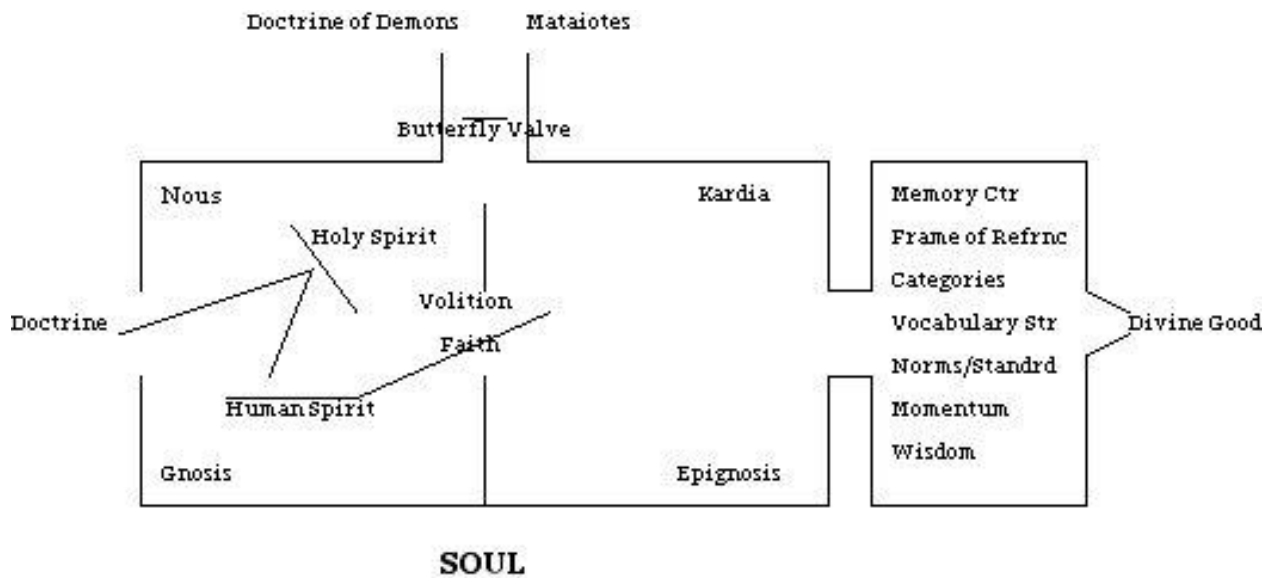
1Jo 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you that you sin not.

7. Every believer is a soldier in the battle for control of his very own soul. The problem: Who will control, doctrine or the Old Sin Nature?



7.1 A believer's chief asset is his new soul—he is a new creature. 2Co 5:17

2Co 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!



7.2 Hurrah I am saved! Joh 3:16-18; Joh 3:36; Eph 2:8-9

Walking His Way

8. The mechanics of walking make for an excellent metaphor. We are to walk in time appropriately because we were called in eternity past to produce divine good. Eph 2:10

9. We walk as witnesses in the appeal phase of the angelic conflict. Our walk must be a step at a time just as we redeem time on a moment-by-moment basis. Col 4:5

9.1 Walking provides a meaningful metaphor for moving forward a step at a time on the road to maturity. 1Jo 1:6-7

9.2 The mechanics of a walk with God are related to the intake of the Word under the filling of the Spirit thereby avoiding the domination of our old sin natures. Rom 3:13-14

10. John makes clear that as a believer we should walk in the light. Light is necessary for us to function effectively on planet earth. Gen 2:3-4

10.1 Light is used in Scripture for that which brings life. There are many other uses of light in Scripture: Several of those uses are: 1Jo 1:4, 5; 8:12; 2Co 4:4; 1Pe 2:9; Eph 5:8; Psa 119:105; Rom 13:12; Eph 5:14.

11. Christ has overcome the devil and his demons. Joh 2:12-14

11.1 Satan's doom is foretold in Mat 25:41 and Rev 20:10. Believers are assured of victory over Satan in Rom 16:20.

11.2 Satan is described by both Isaiah and Ezekiel. Isa 14:12-20 and Eze 28:14-19

Satan's World Strategy

12. Satan is the prince of this world. Satan's chief strategy is to encourage internationalism and discourage nationalism. From the earliest of times foolish leaders motivated by Satan have attempted to conquer other countries. Joh 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; 1Jo 2:15-17

12.1 Those nations who have been foolish enough to disarm are often made vassal states to aggressor nations. Isa 14:12

12.2 God in His Word has instructed us that military strength is the cure for the disease of coveting a neighbor's borders. Military power has always been the divinely proscribed antidote for war.

12.3 When a nation is positive to the Word that nation will prosper. Hos 4:6 warns of failing to take in the Word. When Jehovah, Jesus Christ, led the Nation of Israel out of Egypt He told them at the Red Sea to relax and watch Him fight for them.

12.4 Lucifer's demons according to Daniel are involved in the affairs of national leaders. Dan 10:11-13

12:5 When the four divine institutions, volition, marriage, family and nationalism are attacked, nations suffer. The facts set forth herein are symptomatic of the chaotic thinking encouraged by Satan. We need not despair for Prince Lucifer will ultimately be judged.

13. *The Last Hour*

1Jo 2:18 Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour.

1Jo 2:19 They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

1Jo 2:20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.

1Jo 2:21 I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth.

1Jo 2:22 Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist -- he denies the Father and the Son.

1Jo 2:23 No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

1Jo 2:24 See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.

The Man of Lawlessness

14. As an introduction to the study of 1Jo 3:4-10 I want to give you a brief analysis of how Paul used lawlessness in his letter to the Thessalonians.

2Th 2:1 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers,

2Th 2:2 not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come.

2Th 2:3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction ...

2Th 2:7 For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

2Th 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.

2Th 2:9 The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders,

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NIV

1Jo 3:1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

1Jo 3:2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

1Jo 3:3 Everyone who has this hope in him **purifies** himself, just as he is pure.

15. Let me provide an expanded translation of 1Jo 3:3.

Expanded Translation

Now every believer who keeps on having and holding the expectation described in 1Jo 3:2 this one must keep on purifying himself by means of consistently metabolizing Bible doctrine just as he is positionally pure.

1. Let me give you several summary points:

1.1 First John 3:1-3 highlight the amazing love God has for us. Not only is He willing to call us His children, we actually *are* His children.

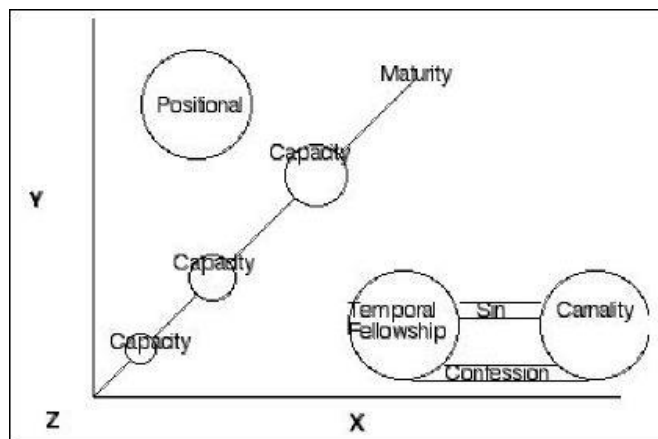
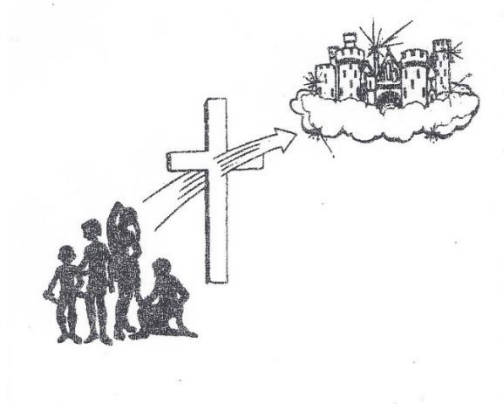
2. The believer's transformation is now in part though immediate; the complete transformation must await a future event.

3. Only when Christ returns will we see our complete transformation. John also connects a relationship with Christ and his desire that we live a pure life in time.

4. The word translated "purifies" is $\alpha\gamma\upsilon\iota\zeta\omega$ which is a verb parsed as a 3rd person singular present active indicative from the noun $\alpha\gamma\nu\omicron\sigma$.

5. Thus the believer must keep on in time trying to purify himself or herself (some more and some less) even while being positionally pure.

6. $\text{A}\gamma\nu\omicron\sigma$ means "pure, chaste, modest, innocent" or "blameless." How does a believer purify himself as he is pure? Two charts will help.



7. What I have taught so far in this introduction should prepare us for a study of 1Jo 3:4-10.

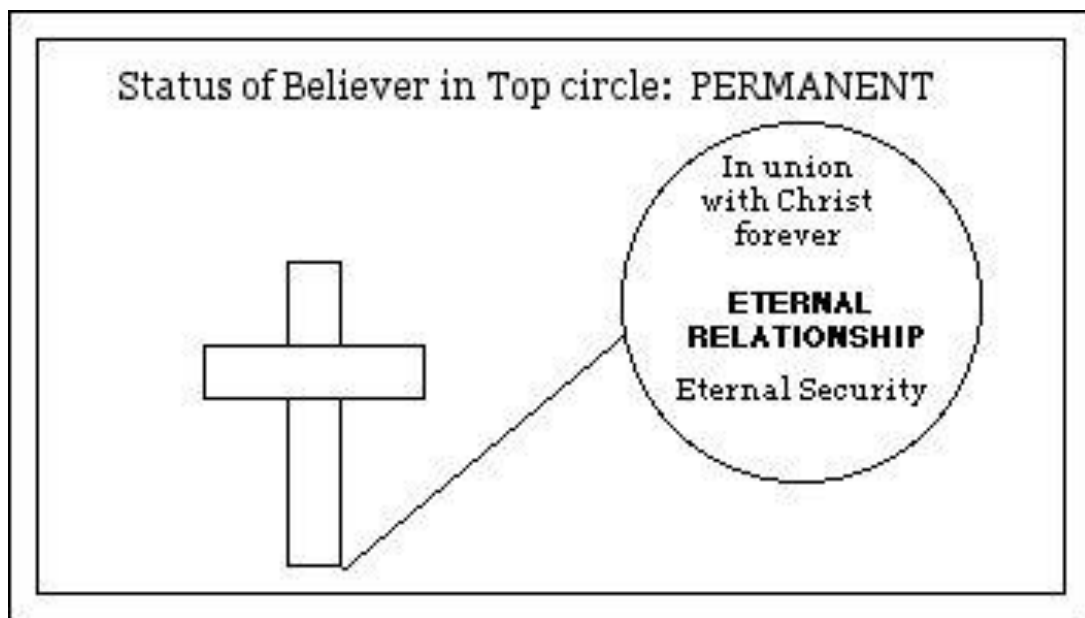
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1Jo 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

1. There are in this verse two verbs: **Poieo** is used twice and **Eimi** is used once.

2. There are two very interesting nouns used: **Anomia** meaning lawlessness or breaking the law and **Hamartia** meaning sin as in missing the target established as a standard by God Himself and fulfilled by Christ.

3. Keep in mind John used **Hamartia** in 1Jo 1:8, 9 and 10 where it is translated sin or sins.



1Jo 1:8 If we say that we have no **sin**, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jo 1:9 If we confess our **sins**, he is faithful and just to forgive us our **sins**, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1Jo 1:10 If we say that we have not **sinned**, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

4. **Hamartia** is the most often used word for what we call sin. It can be found more than 160 times in the New Testament. **Anomia** or one of its cognates, in contrast, is used some 21 times in the New Testament.

5. I think we can safely conclude that there is much to be learned by comparing **αμαρτια** and **ανομια**. There is in 1Jo 3:4-10 a significant contrast between sinning **αμαρτια**—missing the mark; and sinning **ανομια**—lawless sinning.

6. Word Study

6.1 **Hamartia** appears 7 times in 1Jo 3:4-10 where it is translated either “sin or sins.” It means to miss a mark; the mark being a standard established by God.

6.2 **Anomia** appears twice in 1Jo 3:4 where it is translated “transgresseth also the law and transgression of the law.”

7. What does the Bible teach us about sin. Sin is no longer an issue because Christ took care of all missing of the mark--**Hamartia**.

1Jo 2:2 “He died not only for our sins but for the sins (**αμαρτια**) of the entire world. What does the Scripture teach us about the Law and us: the law is no longer our schoolmaster, we are free from the law.

Gal 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Gal 3:25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

8. We are positionally in the top circle where there is no sin or evil. We are there positionally with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

9. In fact I like to think there is a sign posted on the door to the top circle “Posted No Sin or Evil Allowed.”

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